

53 and 54 as follows:

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1.(twice amended) An address management method in a communication system equipped with a plurality of terminals, and a server for registering a corresponding relationship between a first address and a second address of each terminal, the method comprising the steps of:

sending, to the server by an originating terminal, an address interrogation request which includes a first value indicative of a request and a first address;

transferring, to a plurality of terminals by the server, the address interrogation request which includes the first value and first address;

receiving, by each terminal the address interrogation request transferred from the server;

determining by each terminal whether the first address included in the address interrogation request received from the server agrees with a terminal own first address;

notifying, by each terminal, in response to the address interrogation request, the server of an answer which includes a terminal own second address and a second value indicative of an answer when agreement is achieved;

receiving, from one of the plurality of terminals by the server, the answer which includes the second value and the second address which corresponds to the first

address; and

registering, in the server, a corresponding relationship between the first address and the second address which is included in the answer.

2.(twice amended) The method according to claim 1, in the communication system which includes a switch or exchange which accommodates each terminal and the server, wherein the transferring step includes:

a step in which the exchange or switch connects the server with a plurality of terminals by PVCs (permanent virtual channels); and

a step in which, when an address interrogation request having a predetermined value for a PVC has entered from the server, the exchange or switch performs cell copying, whereby the address interrogation request cell is transferred to the plurality of terminals.

3.(twice amended) The method according to claim 1, in the communication system which includes a switch or exchange which accommodates each terminal and the server, wherein the transferring step includes:

a step in which the exchange or switch connects the server with a plurality of

terminals by PVCs (permanent virtual channels) and divides the plurality of terminals into a plurality of groups;

NE a step in which, when an address interrogation request having a predetermined value for a PVC has entered from the server, the exchange or switch performs cell copying, whereby the address interrogation request cell is transferred to all terminals in a first group;

a step in which the server performs monitoring to determine whether a prescribed terminal has answered with a second address within a set period of time;

a step in which the server sends the interrogation request cell to the plurality of terminals of the next group if no terminal answers with a second address within the set period of time; and

a step in which the server transfers the address interrogation request while successively changing the group until a prescribed terminal answers with a second address.

6.(twice amended) An address management method in a communication system equipped with a plurality of terminals, and a server for registering a corresponding relationship between a first address and a second address of each terminal, the method

comprising the steps of:

sending, to the server by an originating terminal, an address interrogation request which includes a first value indicative of a request and a first address;

transferring, to a plurality of terminals by the server, the address interrogation request which includes the first value and first address;

receiving, by each terminal, the address interrogation request transferred from the server;

determining by each terminal whether the first address included in the address interrogation request received from the server agrees with a terminal own first address;

notifying by the terminal, in response to the address interrogation request, the server of an answer which includes a terminal own second address and a second value indicative of an answer when agreement is achieved;

receiving, from one of the plurality of terminals by the server, the answer which includes the second value and the second address which corresponds to the first address;

deleting a corresponding relationship, referred to least recently, between a first address and a second address if the server cannot accommodate a corresponding relationship between the first address and second address included in the answer

received from a prescribed terminal; and

registering, in a memory by the server, a corresponding relationship between the first address and the second address which is included in the answer.

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8.(twice amended) A communication system equipped with a plurality of terminals, and a server for registering a corresponding relationship between a first address and second address of each terminal, wherein

each of the terminals comprises:

means for sending, to the server, an address interrogation request which includes a first value indicative of a request and a first address; and

means for answering the server with an answer including its own second address and a second value indicative of an answer when a first address, included in an address interrogation request which has been received from the server agrees with its own first address; and

the server comprises:

means for transferring the address interrogation request which includes the first value and the first address to a plurality of terminals; and

registration means for registering, in the server, a corresponding relationship

between the first address and the second address which is included in the answer which has been received from one of the plurality of terminals in response to the address interrogation request which has been transferred from the server.

NE 11.(twice amended) The communication system according to claim 8, wherein when the server cannot register a corresponding relationship between the first address, and second address included in the answer which is received from the prescribed terminal, the registration means deletes a corresponding relationship, referred to least recently, between a first address and second address.

12.(twice amended) A server in a communication system equipped with a plurality of terminals, the server comprising:

interrogation means for receiving, from an originating terminal, an address interrogation request including a first value indicative of a request and a first address, and for transferring the address interrogation request to a plurality of terminals;

means for receiving an answer including a second value indicative of an answer and a second address which corresponds to the first address, from one of the plurality of terminals in response to the address interrogation request which has been

transferred from the server; and

registration means for registering, in a memory, a corresponding relationship between the first address and the second address which is included in the answer.

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14.(twice amended) The server according to claim 12, wherein when the server receives an answer including a second value indicative of an answer and a second address from the one of the plurality of terminals, the registration means deletes a corresponding relationship, referred to least recently, if the server can not accommodate a corresponding relationship between the first address and second address, and registers, in a memory of the server, the corresponding relationship between the first address and the second address which is included in the answer.

15.(twice amended) The server according to claim 12, wherein the interrogation means divides a plurality of terminals into a plurality of groups, interrogates all terminals of a first group for a second address and, if notification of an answer including the second address is not received within a set period of time, interrogates all terminals of the next group for a second address.

40.(amended) In a network system having a server, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving, from an originating terminal by the server, a terminal address interrogation request including a first value indicative of a request and a first address;

transferring, by the server, the terminal address interrogation request to a plurality of terminals;

receiving, by the server, an answer including a second value indicative of an answer and a second address which corresponds to the first address, from one of the plurality of terminals in response to the terminal address interrogation request which has been transferred by the server; and

registering, in the server, a corresponding relationship between the first address and the second address which is included in the answer.

41.(amended) The method according to claim 40, wherein the corresponding relationship between the first address and the second address is registered in a vacancy which has been formed by deleting an entry which has a corresponding relationship between a first address and a second address.



42.(amended) The method according to claim 41, wherein the vacancy is formed by deleting an entry which has the oldest reference time.

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45.(twice amended) The method according to the claim 40, further comprising a step in which, when the server receives the answer including the second address and the second value from the one of the plurality of terminals, the server registers the corresponding relationship between the first address and the second address in place of a memory in the server designated by an index value which is calculated based on a value of the first address or the second address.

46.(amended) The method according to claim 40, further comprising a step in which the server periodically receives a terminal address interrogation request including a second address and a second value indicative of an answer from each terminal of the plurality of terminals, whereby the corresponding relationship between the first address of its own terminal and the second address is kept in a server.

47.(amended) In a network system having a server, the method comprising the steps of:  
receiving, from an originating terminal by the server, an address interrogation

request including a first address and a first value indicative of a request;

transferring, by the server, the address interrogation request to a plurality of terminals;

receiving, from an originating terminal by the server, an answer including a second value indicative of an answer and second address which corresponds to a first address;

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deleting, from the server, an entry which has a corresponding relationship between a first address and a second address from the server to form a vacancy when the server cannot register a corresponding relationship between the first address and the second address which is included in the answer; and

registering in a vacancy of the server a corresponding relationship between the first address and the second address which is included in the answer.

48.(amended) The method according to claim 47, wherein the vacancy is formed by deleting the entry which has the oldest reference time.

49.(amended) An address resolution system equipped with a plurality of terminals, a switch or exchange which accommodates each terminal of a plurality of terminals and a

server, wherein

each terminal of the plurality of terminals comprises:

means for sending a terminal address interrogation request which includes a first value indicative of a request and a first address to the server if a second address of another party's terminal is unknown at the time of communication; and

means for answering the server with an answer including a terminal own second address and a second value indicative of an answer when a first address included in a terminal address interrogation request received from the server agrees with a terminal own first address; and

the server comprises:

means for transferring the terminal address interrogation request including the first value indicative of the request and the first address to the plurality of terminals; and

receiving means for receiving, in response to the terminal address interrogation request which has been transferred by the server, an answer including a second address corresponding to the first address from one of the plurality of terminals;

means for registering in the server a corresponding relationship between the first address and the second address which has been included in the answer.

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52.(amended) The address resolution system according to claim 49, wherein when the server receives the answer including the second address corresponding to the first address from the one of the plurality of terminals, the registration means deletes an entry which has a corresponding relationship between a first address and a second address from the server when the server cannot accommodate an entry having a corresponding relationship between the first address and the second address which are included in the answer which has been received from the one of the plurality of terminals.

53.(amended) A server comprising:

means for receiving, from an originating terminal, an address interrogation request including a first address and a first value indicative of a request;

means for transferring the address interrogation request to a plurality of terminals;

means for receiving an answer including a second value indicative of an answer and a second address which corresponds to the first address from one of the plurality of terminals in response to the address interrogation request which has been transferred; and

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means for registering, in a memory of the server, a corresponding relationship between the first address and the second address in a place designated by an index value which is calculated based on a value of the first address or the second address.

54.(amended) The server according to claim 53, wherein when the server receives the answer including the second address corresponding to the first address from the one of the plurality of terminals, the registration means deletes a corresponding relationship, referred to least recently, when the server can not accommodate a corresponding relationship between the first address and the second address, and registers the corresponding relationship between the first address and the second address which is included in the answer.

Please add the following new claim:

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--57. A server to be connected to an exchange or switch in a communication system having a plurality of terminals, the server comprising:  
a receiver for receiving a message which includes one of an address interrogation request including a first address and a first value indicative of a request and an answer including a second address and a second value indicative of an answer